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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/809,248

Confirmation No. 6681

Applicants: Matthew N. Songer

Filed: March 25, 2004

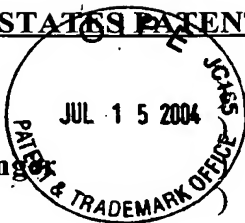
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
BONE FIXATION

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Docket No.: 82650

Customer No.: 22242



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

7/12/04

Date

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Registration No. 36,798
Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 - 1.98 in connection with the above-identified application. The following documents are listed on Form PTO-SB-08A which accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Inventor/Applicant</u>
5,156,616	10/20/1992	Bruce F. Meadows
5,456,685	10/10/1995	Randall J. Huebner
5,456,722	10/10/1995	William D. McLeod, et al.
5,534,011	07/09/1996	George R. Greene, Jr.
5,540,703	07/30/1996	Boyd T. Barker, Jr., et al.
5,571,139	11/05/1996	Joseph R. Jenkins, Jr.
5,611,801	03/18/1997	Matthew N. Songer
5,628,757	05/13/1997	Harrith M. Hasson
5,702,399	12/30/1997	Thomas S. Kilpela, et al.
5,707,395	01/13/1998	Lehmann K. Li

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<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Inventor/Applicant</u>
5,951,560	09/14/1999	Timothy M. Simon, et al.
5,989,256	11/23/1999	Stephen D. Kuslich, et al.
6,033,429	03/07/2000	James A. Magovern
6,241,736	06/05/2001	Ghaleb A. Sater
6,248,106 B1	06/19/2001	Bret A. Ferree
6,283,973	09/04/2001	Eric Hubbard, et al.
6,293,961	09/25/2001	Herbert E. Schwartz
6,325,802 B1	12/04/2001	Robert Frigg
6,387,129	05/14/2002	Bernhard Rieser, et al.
6,423,065 B1	07/23/2002	Bret A. Ferree

OTHER PRIOR ART

Photographs of a prior art vertebral stabilization system employing a cable extending through projecting heads of a screw anchor.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

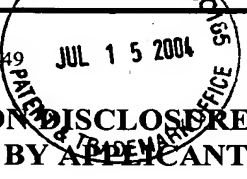
Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By: 

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PTO/SB/08A Substitute for Form PTO-1449				Application Number	10/809,248
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Filing Date	March 25, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Matthew N. Songer
				Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket	82650

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ²	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US - 5,156,616	10/20/1992	Bruce F. Meadows	
		US - 5,456,685	10/10/1995	Randall J. Huebner	
		US - 5,456,722	10/10/1995	William D. McLeod, et al.	
		US - 5,534,011	07/09/1996	George R. Greene, Jr.	
		US - 5,540,703	07/30/1996	Boyd T. Barker, Jr., et al.	
		US - 5,571,139	11/05/1996	Joseph R. Jenkins, Jr.	
		US - 5,611,801	03/18/1997	Matthew N. Songer	
		US - 5,628,757	05/13/1997	Harrith M. Hasson	
		US - 5,702,399	12/30/1997	Thomas S. Kilpela, et al.	
		US - 5,707,395	01/13/1998	Lehmann K. Li	
		US - 5,951,560	09/14/1999	Timothy M. Simon, et al.	
		US - 5,989,256	11/23/1999	Stephen D. Kuslich, et al.	
		US - 6,033,429	03/07/2000	James A. Magovern	
		US - 6,241,736	05/05/2001	Ghaleb A. Sater	
		US - 6,248,106 - B1	06/19/2001	Bret A. Ferree	
		US - 6,283,973	09/04/2001	Eric Hubbard, et al.	
		US - 6,293,961	09/25/2001	Herbert E. Schwartz	
		US - 6,325,802 -B1	12/04/2001	Robert Frigg	
		US - 6,387,129	05/14/2002	Bernhard Rieser, et al.	
		US - 6,423,065 -B1	07/23/2002	Bret A. Ferree	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

PTO/SB/08A Substitute for Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/809,248
				Filing Date	March 25, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Matthew N. Songer
				Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket	82650

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		Photographs of a prior art vertebral stabilization system employing a cable extending through projecting heads of a screw anchor.	

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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